1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

666 only Communists remained, appointed by the "Working People's Union." The entire organization of these elections was a gross violation of the Estonian Electoral Law of 1937. The people were forced to the polling stations and the only way they could show their opposition was by spoiling their ballots. The percentage of spoilt ballots was probably much higher than the 7.2 per cent which the Communists announced.

648 642 The next act of the Estonian tragedy was the incorporation of Estonia into the Soviet Union. The same illegally elected, solely Communist House of Representatives approved at its first session, July 22, three acts of the utmost importance: first, that Estonia become a Soviet Republic; second, to ask the Supreme Soviet of the USSR to admit Estonia into the Soviet Union;

[47] and third, the nationalization of all banks, all land and all large industrial enterprises.

668 Estonian nationalists in April, 1944. Some of them were released only shortly before the end of the German occupation.

727 471 Economically Estonia did not fare any better under German occupation than she did under the Soviets. Economic exploitation of the country continued. Only twelve per cent of the nationalized land was given back to the owners and in only a very few cases was private property returned. As a rule, the Germans did not restore ownership of nationalized property.

[437] Food rations for the people were so meager that no one could live without the help of the black market.

721 In the winter of 1943-44 the retreating Germans brought their front close to Estonia again. The great Soviet air raid on Tallinn on the night of March 9th, burned and destroyed much of the

204 domestic newspapers are Communistic. The
626 most important of these is Rahva Hääl ('The People's Voice').

214 The major publishing firms are nationalized
771 and all publication is centralized and controlled by the State Publishing House (Riiklik Kirjastus), with its seat in Tallinn. It has several sections: literature, art, political science, childrens' literature, etc. There are no private printers and the former commercial firms have received new names: Postimees at Tartu, for example, is now Tartu's Communist. There is no information concerning their output.

207 There is no information about the number of privately-owned radio receivers, their type or reception. It is known that Estonian guerrillas, metsavennad, had their own receivers and transmitters. How many of them are left at the

317 500 permanent workers and about 1300 seasonal
473 workers during the summer. Expansion capabilities for peat industries seemed to be unlimited.

387 The Phosphorite industry was founded also at
473 the beginning of Estonia's independence. Estonians Phosphorite, Inc. in Tallinn was founded in 1920 and was made an incorporated enterprise in 1923. Its mine and plant, which produced enriched phosphorite and superphosphate, were
• [471] at Jõelähtme, Harjumaa. The State owned four-fifths of its stocks. In 1939 was opened a new phosphorite mine which was to yield 400,000 tons of raw phosphorite yearly. The war, however, interrupted these projects.

339 Other more important industries and plants in Estonia were:

The cement factory at Kunda, Virumaa, with about 500 workers. -369-

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

471 Industry in Soviet-Occupied Estonia. All the larger plants were nationalized at the very beginning of the Soviet occupation by the all-Union Commissariats in Moscow, and production was begun for the U. S. S. R. The former plant owners were not permitted to be employed in their former plants or firms. Although the smaller plants were not nationalized, they could no longer survive under the pressure of excessive taxes and without raw materials. The Soviets are interested mainly in the development of heavy industry, oil-shale and engineering, and these industries are carefully controlled. A pipeline was laid from the Virumaa oil-shale plants to Leningrad and by now probably the whole of Leningrad receives its fuel from Estonia. Also, Tallinn is supplied now by oil-shale gas. The Soviet leaders have imported

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[439]

1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

000 market 2-3 kilograms of butter or pork.

655 All banks were nationalized by the Commu-
471
453 nists and the Estonian Bank was replaced by the Soviet State Bank. But the average citizen of the Estonian SSR is not too interested in banks because he has nothing to save.

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1:Indiana U. S-4, 5(1954-5)1955 RG4 Estonia RG4

Annex "A," Subparagraph 3e,

Economic Background

DOMESTIC TRADE

471 441 Private trade was ended at the beginning of the Soviet Occupation according to the same pattern as industry. The larger firms were nationalized and on the smaller ones were levied such heavy taxes that after some months their doors were closed. Moreover, these small private firms could not receive any new supplies from the nationalized wholesale stores.

474 441 The population of an urban area is supplied by State trading establishments (torgs or markets) while the co-operatives take care of the rural population. The change in the co-operative movement was almost as great as in the trade unions. Soviet authorities took over the co-operatives, replaced the leading

C O N S T I T U T I O N

(Fundamental Law)

of the

ESTONIAN

SOVIET SOCIALIST

REPUBLIC

of August 25, 1940

As amended to November 1947

Chapter I. The Social Structure

642 Art. 1. The Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic is a socialist state of workers and peasants.

Art. 2. The political foundation of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic is the Soviets of Working People's Deputies, firmly established as a result of the overthrow of the power of the capitalists and big landowners and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Art. 3. All power in the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic belongs to the working people of town and country as represented by the Soviets of Working People's Deputies.

● 471 Art. 4. The economic foundation of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic is the socialist system of economy and the socialist ownership of the instruments and means of production, firmly established as the result of the liquidation of the capitalist system of economy, the abolition of private ownership of the instruments and means of production in large industrial enterprises and the nationalization of such enterprises with a view to the complete abolition of the exploitation of man by man and the construction of a socialist system of society.

Art. 5. Socialist property in the Estonian SSR exists either in the form of state property (belonging to the whole people) or in the form of co-operative property.

475 Art. 6. The land, its mineral wealth, waters, forests, mills,
421 factories, mines, rail, water and air transport, banks, communications, large state-organized agricultural enterprises (state farms, machine and tractor stations and the like), as well as municipal enterprises and the bulk of the dwelling houses in the cities and industrial localities, are state property, that is, belong to the whole people.

474 Art. 7. The common enterprises of co-operative organizations, with
421 their livestock and implements, the products of co-operative organizations, as well as their common buildings, constitute the common, socialist property of the co-operative organizations.

1 [Errata: insert "banks, transport and means of communication." Cf. Errata sheet, Cat. 116, p. 111--Analyst] p. 1

[Estonian Constitution as of November, 1947]

472 Art. 8. Alongside the socialist system of economy in the Estonian SSR the law permits the small private economy of individual peasants, artisans and handicraftsmen and small private industrial and trading enterprises.

423 Art. 9. The land occupied by peasant holdings as provided by law is secured for their use free of charge and for an unlimited time.

421 Art. 10. The personal property right of citizens in their incomes and savings from work, in their dwelling houses and subsidiary home enterprises, in articles of domestic economy and use and articles of personal use and convenience, as well as the right of citizens to inherit personal property, is protected by law.

471 185 Art. 11. The economic life of the Estonian SSR is determined and directed by the state national-economic plan, with the aim of increasing the public wealth, of steadily raising the material and cultural standards of the working people, of consolidating the independence of the USSR and strengthening its defensive capacity.

461 Art. 12. Work in the Estonian SSR is a duty and a matter of honour for every able-bodied citizen, in accordance with the principle: "He who does not work, neither shall he eat."

The principle applied in the Estonian SSR is that of socialism: "From each according to his ability, to each according to his work."

Chapter II. The State Structure

642 Art. 13. For the purpose of mutual assistance among the Union Republics along economic and political lines, as well as along the line of defence, the Estonian SSR voluntarily united with the other equal Soviet Socialist Republics, namely:

The Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic,
The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic,
The Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic,
The Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic,
The Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic,
The Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic,
The Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic,
The Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic,
The Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic,
The Kirghiz Soviet Socialist Republic,
The Tajik Soviet Socialist Republic,
The Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic,
The Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic,
The Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic and
The Karelo-Finnish Soviet Socialist Republic

in a federal state, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Proceeding from the aforesaid, the Estonian SSR ensures to the USSR, as represented by its higher organs of state power and organs of state administration, the rights defined in Art. 14 of the Constitution of the USSR.